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January Minutes

VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2009 MEETING

In attendance: Andrew Fischer, Bruce Fitzsimmons, Joey Glushko, Clare Gordon, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Angela Olszewski.

- It was noted that there was no material for real **minutes** of the December meeting because the entire meeting was spent on revising the census survey. See mini-minutes below.
- The **census survey** will go out next week. Jane thanked all who had worked on it, especially Joey.
- The **forum on Health Care Initiatives** to collect ideas as requested by the new administration is scheduled for 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, January 28, 2009 in the Town Hall, preceded by a training session for facilitators on January 21. The forum will be taped and shown on cable, edited. *[Subsequently the forum was rescheduled to February 4, same time and place, due to weather problems.]*

Warrant articles:

- The article asking for money for the **waterbodies fund** has been endorsed by the Con Com but still needs to be reviewed by the Town Counsel. The fund has just about enough money in it for weed treatment for Spy Pond this year but other waterbodies will also need attention. Fish and Wildlife requires monitoring the endangered sedge found on the shore of Spy Pond for three years. If it is on private property, owners should be notified, and perhaps all abutters should be informed about it.
- Andrew Fischer has submitted a warrant article on **automobile insurance**, and has proposed a bill on municipally sponsored insurance that has been filed by Representative Garballey. Andrew wants to ask Town Meeting to direct our legislators to follow through on it.
- The warrant article proposing a **fund for after-school activities**, similar to Dollars for Scholars, was discussed. This article will be submitted by Vision 2020.

Task Groups:

- **Governance** is updating the "Settling In" brochure. This will be the fifth edition. It may be printed in a larger format with a pocket to hold other information pieces.
- **Environment:** The **Reservoir** Committee is trying to find a time for a meeting when the landscape architect who volunteered to help plan a habitat garden at the Res is available.
- **Sustainable Arlington** would like a disk of the census survey data when available. It will have an exhibit at Robbins Library in February. Marc Breslow, its former chair, who now works for the state, will teach a workshop on home energy efficiency in the Arlington Community Education program at the high school on January 22.
- The **Spy Pond** Committee is working on its annual fertilizer flyer and is planning another work day on the Rt. 2 path for May 9. The committee chairs and Town officials met with MassHighway officials in December in another effort to get MassHighway to remove the sandbar in the Pleasant Street corner of the pond. This was unsuccessful, but MassHighway seems amenable to having the Rt. 2 path area turned into a liner park, and even to moving the fence between the path and Rt. 2 to make more room for it, as long as Arlington does the work. The committee will start planning for it.